

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY

27 April 1984

Tom Cormack
Executive Secretary

History Staff Bi-Weekly

On the matter of the transfer of the OSS records to the National Archives, a cable is being sent to selected stations so that assurances can be given to foreign governments involved with OSS, the memo of understanding has been returned to the Archives for approval, and Ken has sent a draft of his proposed status report to the DCI to the components concerned.

The court has determined that CIA does not have to release Smith's draft chapter for the Helms history for use in the Westmoreland vs CBS case.

Bob has written to five retired officers to request interviews. They are James Critchfield, James Angleton, [redacted] and [redacted]. He has also had a brief phone conversation with Richard Helms and is in continuing phone contact with [redacted].

[redacted] O/DCI, called for the dates [redacted] served as DDM&S; we supplied the information by telephone.

[redacted] has set 30 June as her retirement date.

Bob won the Sherman Kent award for his article on [redacted] which appeared in Studies in Intelligence.

[redacted] working together, are making steady inroads on the processing of the History Staff's holdings [redacted].

/s/

[redacted]
History Staff

Orig - Adse

- 1 - JKM File
- 1 - RK File
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- 1 - Bi-Weekly File

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Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

27 April 1984

Mr. Alan Thompson
Chief, Records Declassification Division (NND)
National Archives
8th and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20408

Dear Alan,

I'll enclose our proposed revision of the draft Memorandum of Understanding that you gave me 19 March. Our lawyer had no problems with your draft, and simply incorporated some additions suggested by those handling the records here; these are:

- A. A new first paragraph, as a sort of preface to explain the purpose of the memorandum.
- B. A few minor changes in the first, second and third paragraphs of your draft.
- C. Two explanatory sentences inserted into the penultimate paragraph.
- D. A change in the last paragraph, to have the agreement become effective as soon as both parties sign it.

I suggested the earlier effective date, since we are already following the procedures described, and you will be, too, once you begin processing the first batch of 198 cubic feet that the CIA team is checking in Bob [redacted] shop now.

Please call me if you would like to discuss this draft memorandum. I hope that it will meet with approval from those of you who will take charge of these OSS records.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

[redacted]

J. Kenneth McDonald
Chief Historian

Enclosure

HS-Chrono

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY AND THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

SUBJECT: Accessioning CIA Predecessor Wartime Organizations
Records by the National Archives - Associated
Responsibilities and Procedures

1. In considering the transfer of CIA Predecessor wartime organization, primarily Office of Strategic Services (OSS) records to the National Archives for release to the public, the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) has expressed concerns that the records may contain information that is inappropriate for immediate access. For purposes of simplicity, these records will hereafter be referred to as the "OSS records." The National Archives has provided assurances that its processing procedures will address and resolve these concerns before access is provided. This Memorandum of Understanding reflects mutual agreement that the CIA and National Archives review procedures outlined below will serve to expedite the release of OSS records to the public while providing appropriate safeguards against premature access.

2. The OSS records will be examined for declassification by the CIA. Documents or portions of documents under the final declassification jurisdiction of the CIA (successor Agency) which are found still to contain national security information despite the passage of time will be withdrawn from the records and withheld in the custody of the CIA. A withdrawal card bearing a unique number will be substituted for the withdrawn material. Upon completion of the CIA's examination, the records appropriate for transfer as permanent records will be sent to the National Archives for accessioning. The records will consist of declassified and unclassified material, except as indicated below.

3. Classified material which the CIA has determined does not require continued protection insofar as that agency's interests are concerned, but which may require continued national security protection in the interest of some other U.S. agency or of a foreign government will be transferred along with the declassified and unclassified OSS records. Such classified material will be identified by the CIA examiners by placing a tab around the relevant material or by affixing a tag to the individual items. It will be the responsibility of the National Archives to review such identified classified material for possible declassification at appropriate intervals in accordance with applicable Executive Orders and Information Security Oversight Office directives. The CIA's Information

and Privacy Coordinator will assist National Archives officials responding to access requests when the identification of the responsible U.S. agency is unclear or when transmittal to an appropriate foreign government is required for declassification determination.

4. The National Archives will screen and withhold from access and/or refrain from copying for a fee declassified or unclassified accessioned OSS records containing information about a living individual which reveal details of a highly personal nature that the individual could reasonably assert a claim to withhold from the public to avoid a clearly unwarranted invasion of privacy, including but not limited to information about the physical or mental health or the medical or psychiatric care or treatment of the individual, and that contain personal information not known to have been previously made public, and relate to events less than 75 years old (41 CFR 105.61.5302-4).

5. It is agreed that the OSS records still contain sensitive documents which could cause adverse international repercussions. Therefore, at the time of records arrangement, the National Archives will conduct initial screening on a series or subseries basis. When files or documents are requested, a re-screening will be performed on potentially sensitive records before such items are furnished to researchers. At such time, NARS reviewers will exercise discretion regarding the release of records that might cause national or international repercussions. In case of doubt, or where CIA has identified sensitive records, the National Archives will consult with appropriate information specialists of the CIA concerning the propriety and/or legal basis for continued denial or release.

6. The procedures set forth in this Memorandum of Understanding will become effective upon execution of this Memorandum of Understanding by both NARS and CIA .

ROBERT M. WARNER
Archivist of the United States

Date

HARRY A. FITZWATER
Deputy Director for Administration
Central Intelligence Agency

Date